CatChanSpam

WHAT PART OF DO NOT DISTRIBUTE OUTSIDE
OF IRC WITHOUT PERMISSION
DO YOU NOT UNDERSTAND!?!?

VAMPIRE GAME
by JUDAL
TOKYOPOP
5

VAMPIRE GAME

Volume 5

by

JUDAL

TOKYOPOP®

Los Angeles • Tokyo • London

VAMPIRE GAME

The Story Thus Far...

This is the tale of the Vampire King Duzell and his quest for revenge against the good King Phelios, a valiant warrior who slew the vampire a century ago. Now Duzell has returned, reincarnated as a feline foe to deliver woe to...well, that's the problem. Who is the reincarnation of King Phelios?

Duzell and Princess Ishtar have journeyed to Ci Xeneth, the home of Ishtar's Uncle Jened. Between his obsession with Ruelles, his collection of monsters in the basement, and his lust for the throne of Pheliosta, Jened is one of the most repulsive rulers to ever see sovereignty. His desire to both marry and murder his niece is recognized, as is the assumption that he probably won't do it in that order. However, one good thing has come from Jened–his daughter Falan. As pure as her father is putrid, she's adored by Ishtar and beloved by the people of Ci Xeneth.

While neither Jened nor Falan seem like the reborn Phelios, the fact remains that they could be. Of course, to know for sure, Duzell must sample their blood, which unfortunately means getting close to Jened. Deciding to delve as deep undercover as the shallow Ishtar can bear, they befriend the palace guard. After all, who's likely to harbor more resentment towards Jened than those on his payroll?

吸血遊戯
シーゼス
東領篇
Act.3
"I WANT YOU TO BE MINE."
I'VE HEARD THAT BEFORE. IN MY LAST LIFE...
IT WAS ONLY YESTERDAY, BUT IT COULD HAVE BEEN A CENTURY AGO...
I WAS HOLDING SIDIA--YOUR SIDIA--WHEN ILLSAIDE SAID THAT TO ME.

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THOSE MEN HAD FAMILIES!
THOSE MEN WERE MASSACRED, MUTILATED AND STRUNG-UP IN THE MARKET! WHAT THE DEVIL ARE WE TURNING INTO?
LIEU-TENANT!
THAT WAS A BIT HARSH, DON'T YOU THINK?!

...PHELIOS!
吸血遊戯
シーゼネス
東領篇
Act.3

COME ON, BE A NICE KITTY.
ALL RIGHT! ALL RIGHT!

I ACCEPT YOUR OFFER.
OFFER? WHAT OFFER?

AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, THOSE BANDITS GOT WHAT THEY DESERVED. AT LEAST THIS WAY THEY'RE CONTRIBUTING SOMETHING TO SOCIETY.

CALM DOWN, ROY.
THOSE MEN WERE THIEVES AND MURDERERS. YOU SPEAK OF FAMILIES...
WHAT ABOUT THE FAMILIES OF THE MEN THEY KILLED?

LET THEM REMIND THE PEOPLE OF CI XENETH THAT LORD JENED WILL NOT TOLERATE LAWBREAKERS.
OUR JOB ISN'T TO TERRIFY PEOPLE!! WE'RE SUPPOSED TO KEEP THEM FROM LIVING IN FEAR !!
HI, ILLSAIDE!

THIS BOY'S SWORD HAD BETTER BE QUICKER THAN HIS WITS.
YOU KNOW ...
THE "I WANT YOU TO BE MY MAN" OFFER.

OH YEAH! UM...VERY GOOD. THANK YOU.
AND WHAT'S WITH THAT SMILE?
DID HE JUST BLUSH?
CONGRAT-ULATIONS!
YOU'RE THE MAN, CAPTAIN!

I'M NOT VERY GOOD AT THIS KIND OF THING, SO I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT TO SAY. BUT I'M GLAD YOU SAID YES. THANK YOU.
WHAT KIND OF THING?
I WAS EXPECTING, "WELCOME TO THE TEAM..."
OR MAYBE, "GLAD TO HAVE YOU ABOARD..."
BUT THEY'RE ACTING LIKE A BUNCH OF SCHOOLGIRLS.
WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?
OH, I'M--
YOURS OR YOUR BROTHER'S.
OH, HEY! I JUST REALIZED THAT I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOUR NAME!

NOPE! MY FATHER NAMED US AFTER THE FUTURE QUEEN OF PHELIOSTA AND THE LEGENDARY VAMPIRE KING! AND IF YOU THINK THAT'S WEIRD, YOU SHOULD HEAR WHAT HE NAMED OUR SISTER!
I'M ISHTA.
THAT'S DU.
INTERESTING NAMES. DID YOU PICK THEM YOURSELVES?
NOTE TO SELF, STRANGLE "ISHTA" AS SOON AS WE GET HOME.
ANYHOW, WE GO BY DU AND ISHTA.
Although sometimes I call him Dude...

SO, YOU'RE DU.
GIVE ME YOUR HAND.

GORGEN ...
CAN YOU HANDLE THE LILKE WITHOUT ME? I'M GOING TO BE A LITTLE... BUSY.
OF COURSE, MY CAPTAIN ...

WE'RE HUNTING LILKE.
THEN AGAIN, ILLSAIDE MIGHT ACTUALLY LIKE THAT
ISHTA..
I UNDERSTAND YOU CAN USE HOLY MAGIC. WE'D BE HONORED IF YOU WOULD JOIN US
IT SHOULD BE FUN.
A CHANCE TO REVEL IN OUR MANLI-NESS.
LILKE?

HMM.. MAYBE I SHOULD'VE TOLD DUZELL.
OH WELL, TOO LATE NOW! I'M SURE HE'LL BE FINE HE DOES HAVE CLAWS, AFTER ALL

WHERE HAVE I HEARD THAT WORD BEFORE?
HMMMM
PRIN-CESS!
PRINCESS FALAN!

YES?
NO ONE
I MEAN, NOTHING SPECIAL
IF YOU INSIST, MILADY
?
THERE YOU ARE! WHAT WERE YOU LOOKING AT DOWN THERE?

YOUR FATHER IS WAITING FOR YOU AT THE BREAKFAST TABLE.
AND THOSE FABRICS HE ORDERED ARRIVED THIS MORNING! THE ONES FOR YOUR NEW DRESSES!
YOU'LL HAVE THE PRETTIEST GOWNS AT THE HOLIDAY FESTIVALS!
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THEM!
YOU MUST BE THE HAPPIEST GIRL IN THE WORLD!

SHE'S SO BEAUTIFUL! AND SHE HASN'T HURT ANYBODY
WAIT A SECOND!
YOU WANT ME TO HELP YOU KILL THAT?!
I'M SORRY, BUT YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN!

SHE... SHE'S BEAUTIFUL!
SHE MUST BE ABOUT TO GIVE BIRTH!
AND LOOK, SHE'S GROWING WINGS!
THERE SHE IS!
WE'LL TRY AND STUN HER WITH MAGIC
NO. SHE'S PROBABLY NOT ABLE TO FLY YET, BUT WE CAN'T RISK IT
SHOULD WE RUSH HER?

SHHH!
AAARGH!
ROY!
ATTACK !!
SHE'S SPOTTED US!

I TURNED THE MAN INTO A WOMAN
ONLY PROBLEM IS THAT THE LAST TIME I TRIED CASTING IT...
SHHH! YOU NEED TO STAY CALM.
WAIT! I KNOW A HEALING SPELL...
WE NEED A HEALING SPELL!
W-WE'VE BEEN T-TRAINING FOR THIS HUNT FOR WEEKS.
TO MAKE A RUELLE OF TRANSPORT-ATION H-HE ASKED US, TO CATCH ONE .
LORD JENED... NEEDS THE LILKE...
BUT NO ONE ..EVER SAID THEY... COULD DO THAT!

WHY?
THEY'RE TRYING TO CAPTURE IT?
SUBDUE HER, BUT DON'T KILL HER!!
REMEMBER! WE NEED HER ALIVE!
I'VE NEVER SEEN A . LILKE DO THAT...
SOME-THING'S WRONG .
I CAN'T SEE.. ISHTA? I CAN'T. .
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LIKE MY RING?
A RUELLE OF TRANS-PORTATION?

MY LIFE HAS GOTTEN SO WEIRD.
BY THE WAY.
...WHEN IT'S CONVENIENT, I'D LIKE TO MEET LORD JENED.
SO I CAN BITE HIM AND SEE IF HE'S THE REINCARNATION OF PHELIOS.
SURE, NO PROBLEM.

I SUPPOSE
THERE'S NO GETTING AROUND IT.

HUH?

I THINK I'M THE FIRST VAMPIRE IN HISTORY TO FEEL EMBARRASSED. IT DOESN'T SUIT US...
I'D ALSO LIKE TO MEET PRINCESS FALAN.
WHEN SHE'S GOT SOME FREE TIME, OF COURSE.
I wonder what Princess Falan will taste like.

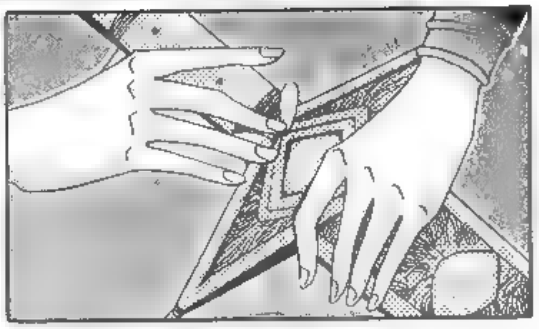
NO GETTING AROUND WHAT?

HUH?

吸血遊戯
シーゼネス
東領篇
Act.4

OH, WHAT-EVER HAPPENS, I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW. .
. I'D GIVE MY LIFE TO PROTECT YOU.
LOOK, EVE, I SLAUGHTERED HALF THE FREE WORLD. I REALLY DON'T NEED YOU TO PROTECT ME.
NOT THIS AGAIN

I'VE STUDIED MAGIC SINCE I COULD TALK. BUT WHEN I REALLY NEED IT, I'M COMPLETELY USELESS!! SHOULD'VE PAID MORE ATTENTION TO YUJINN.
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!
ROY!!
WAIT..


I WONDER HOW MUCH POWER IT REALLY HAS!
SIDIA, THE SWORD OF HOLY MAGIC...

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PLEASE, SIDIA!
I NEED TO HELP ROY!

HMM . WELL, THAT'S INTERESTING.

HUH?
I DIDN'T CAST THE SPELL.
CAN I SAY SOME-THING, DUZIE?
WHAT ?
SO I WAS GOING TO USE "BURN BEGONE"--I KNOW THAT ONE FOR SURE--AND SEE HOW MUCH SIDIA BOOSTED ITS POWER!
I KNEW I'D NEVER GET "WINGS OF MERCY" RIGHT, AND I COULDN'T REMEMBER HOW "SUCCORELLE" STARTS.
THAT ONE ALWAYS CONFUSES ME
THEY TEACH THAT SPELL TO SCHOOLCHILDREN!
"BURN BEGONE" ?!

...HIS EYE WAS COMPLETELY HANGING OUT OF THE SOCKET! HE WASN'T HEALED COMPLETELY, BUT...
YOU DID GOOD?
I DID GOOD, HUH?!
...WHEN HE GOT BACK TO THE BARRACKS, THE HEALER SAID HE COULD PATCH HIM UP GOOD AS NEW!
YOU COULD HAVE KILLED HIM!
LOOK, YOU CAN PRACTICE ALL YOU WANT ON THESE HUMANS, BUT DON'T YOU EVER TRY CASTING THAT ON ME! GOT IT?!
HOW COULD YOU EVEN THINK OF CASTING A SPELL LIKE THAT?! REMEMBER YOUR MAGIC TEST?! JUST ONE WRONG INTONATION AND "WINGS OF MERCY" BECOMES A TRANSFORMATION SPELL!
YOU'RE DAMN LUCKY YOU DIDN'T TURN HIM INTO A PRINCESS!

SIDIA ISN'T ALIVE! IT COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN YOU NEEDED HELP!
COME ON!
WELL, IT DID
HE'S RIGHT. I THINK ..
STILL, I CAN'T HELP THINKING ABOUT THAT POOR LILKE.
ROY SAID THEY WERE GOING TO USE IT TO CREATE A MAGIC RING THEY WANTED IT ALIVE

HE MUST HAVE REALLY DONE SOMETHING WRONG IN HIS LAST LIFE.
THAT POOR BASTARD...
..AND CAST A HEALING SPELL THROUGH ME!
BUT IT WAS LIKE ..
..SIDIA..
...KNEW WHAT I NEEDED..
FUNNY, HUH?

I DON'T THINK.
YOU KNOW, WITH ILLSAIDE.
...GETTING CLOSE TO YOUR UNCLE AND COUSIN IS GOING TO BE A PROBLEM.
BUT THINGS ARE GETTING KIND OF STRANGE.
STRANGE?
HE SAID WHAT?!
ILLSAIDE SAID HE WAS IN LOVE WITH ME.

I SHOULD PROBABLY FIND OUT MORE BEFORE I TELL DUZELL.
UNLESS...
ONLY AN ARCHMAGE CAN CRAFT A RUELLE, BUT THEY DON'T EXACTLY GROW ON TREES. I WONDER IF UNCLE JENED FOUND ONE.
NAH, COULDN'T BE.
SO, DUZIE, HOW'D IT GO ANYWAY?

YOU SAID I WAS YOUR SISTER ?!

HE, UH.. ASKED ME TO BE HIS BOYFRIEND.
HE'S INTRO-DUCING ME TO YOUR UNCLE TONIGHT.
THERE'S SOMETHING I DON'T GET, THOUGH. ISN'T IT A BIT WEIRD TO SHOW OFF YOUR ..BOY TOY..TO YOUR ARMY BUDDIES? I MEAN, A GIRLFRIEND I COULD UNDER-STAND, BUT A BOYFRIEND?

YOU DON'T SAY..
DUZIE... UH..
I FORGOT TO TELL YOU SOMETHING.

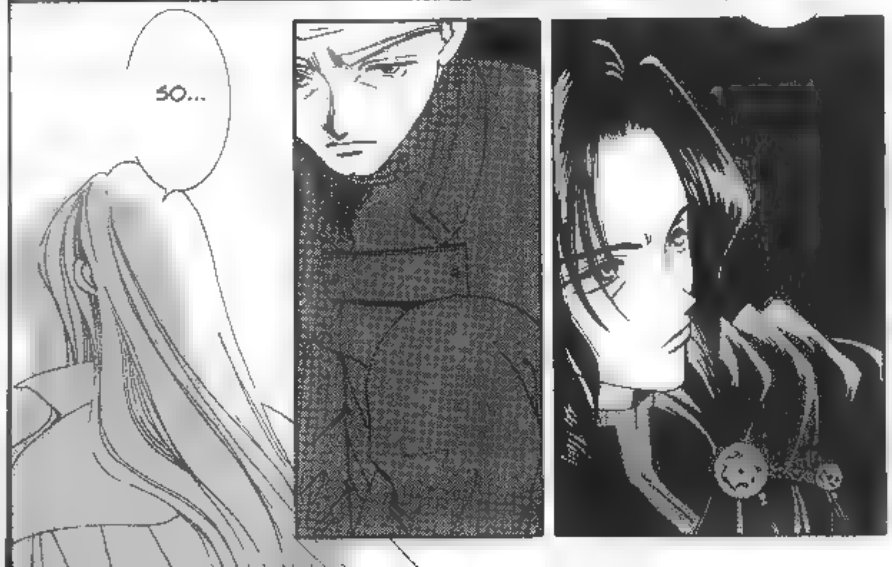
BUT YOU SHOULD NEVER SEND A SOLDIER TO DO A SORCERER'S JOB, RIGHT?!
I HEARD MY KNIGHTS HAD SOME PROBLEMS WITH THIS CREATURE. THEY TRY, YOU KNOW?
SHE'S BEAUTIFUL, DAAGE!
MY LORD ...
THE CREATURE WAS ENCHANTED.
SIR GORGEN AND HIS MEN COULD NOT HAVE CAPTURED HER WITHOUT HELP.

I WASN'T THERE, MY LORD.
YOU WEREN'T THERE?
ILLSAIDE, I'M DISAPPOINTED YOU'VE DEALT WITH ENCHANTED CREATURES BEFORE
HOW TOUGH COULD A LITTLE LILKE LIKE THIS BE?
WHAT?! THEY HAD PLENTY OF HELP!
NO, CAPTAIN ILLSAIDE WASN'T..
THE CAPTAIN WAS--

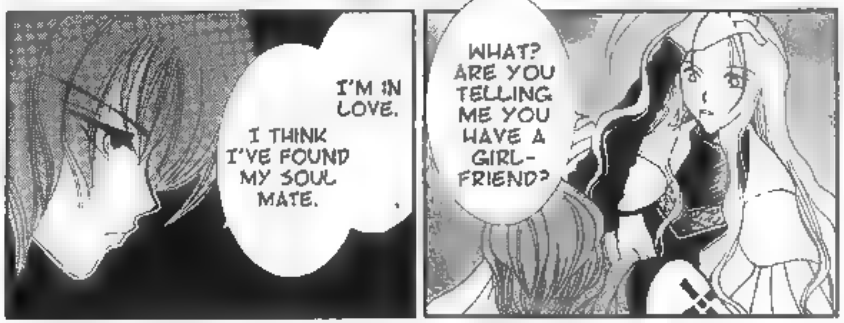
ANSWER ME!
WHAT THE HELL WAS SO IMPORTANT
. THAT YOU WOULD DELIBERATELY DEFY ME?!!

WHY NOT?
I GAVE YOU AN ORDER, CAPTAIN!
I TOLD YOU TO CAPTURE THE LILIKE!

I NEVER WOULD HAVE THOUGHT
THAT I'D HEAR THOSE BEAUTIFUL WORDS COME OUT OF YOUR MOUTH!
I SUPPOSE TRUE LOVE S MORE IMPORTANT THAN A LILKE OR TWO' RIGHT, GENTLEMEN ?


SO...

I WAS LYING IN A MEADOW . WITH A WOMAN.
A WOMAN?


I'M IN LOVE.
I THINK I'VE FOUND MY SOUL MATE.
WHAT? ARE YOU TELLING ME YOU HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND?

SAY, WHY DON'T YOU BRING HER BY TONIGHT FOR D NNER?
I'LL HAVE FALAN JOIN US!
...WHEN DO I GET TO MEET THE LUCKY LADY?

PLEASE ?
DUZIE...
DON'T BE MAD AT ME!
THINK OF IT AS A DISGUISE! BESIDES, ILLSAIDE LIKES YOU, AND HE'S GOING TO GET YOU CLOSE TO UNCLE JENED
YOUR MISSION S GOING GREAT! NOW LET S GO GET YOU ALL PRETTIED UP!
PRETTY PLEASE?
C'MON, YOU'RE UNDERCOVER, REMEMBER?
...AT LEAST MAKE SURE THEY'RE MY TYPE!
PRINCESS, IF YOU INSIST...
ON HOOKING ME UP WITH MEN...
YOU EXPECT A VAMPIRE KING TO DATE KNIGHTS AND PRINCES? COME ON!
ISHTA!!
DU!

He has hairy ears, man.
Nope. His was definitely a dude.
I KNOW A WOMAN WITH THAT NAME BUT IT CAN'T BE HER. THAT WAS SO LONG AGO.
DIAAGE? HMM...
AN ARCH-MAGE? REALLY?
ANYHOW, SIR DIAAGE SAID THAT THE LILKE WE CAUGHT
. WAS ENCHANTED.
THAT'S HOW IT WAS ABLE TO BEAT OUR BUTTS SO BAD.

ROY!
YOU'RE OUT OF BED?
THE HEALER SAID YOU SHOULD REST FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS!
I'M FINE.
SIR DIAAGE, THE MAGICIAN THAT HELPED.. HE'S BEEN TREATING ME PERSONALLY!
I'VE NEVER FELT THIS GOOD!
YEAH!
LORD JENED JUST MADE H.M HIS HIGH SORCERER THEY SAY HE'S AN ARCHMAGE!
DIAAGE?
OH, YEAH! THE SCARY-LOOKING GUY

COULD THAT VAMPIRE FROM LA NAAN HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS? DOUBTFUL.
STILL, THAT'S NO HICKEY OUR BOY ROY IS SPORTING ON HIS NECK.
OH, YEAH! EVEN AS A GIRL, I'M STILL THE MAN!
LORD JENED WOULD LIKE FOR YOU AND THE CAPTAIN TO JOIN HIM FOR DINNER TONIGHT.
DU, YOU HAVE A ROYAL SUMMONS!
OH.
I ALMOST FORGOT!
I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND IT, BUT SIR D!AAGE SAID IT'S KIND OF LIKE THE "GUARDIAN" SPELL THAT VAMPIRES USE
WAIT! HOW WAS IT ENCHANTED?
AT ANY RATE, KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN.
HE THINKS IT MIGHT BE MERARIM SABOTEURS. IT WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME CONSIDERING WHAT JENED DID TO THEIR QUEEN...
I WONDER...
I'M REALLY GETTING SICK OF THAT SPELL.
GUARDIAN"

ALL RIGHT, PRINCESS, I DRAW THE LINE AT WEARING A DRESS. YOU'LL HAVE TO SWITCH PLACES WITH ME.
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?
DID YOU SAY FORMAL COURT DRESS?
UM... OKAY, NOT CERTAIN OF WHAT YOU'RE .. IT'S NO MATTER. FORMAL COURT DRESS IS REQUESTED.

THAT WON'T WORK. HOW WILL I KNOW IF ONE OF THEM IS PHELIOS?
DRESSED AS A MAN, I'M PROBABLY UNRECOG-NIZABLE TO H'M. BUT AS A WOMAN, I'M NOT SO SURE
LOOK, DUZIE, MY UNCLE'S NOT EXACTLY WHAT YOU'D CALL A WARM MAN
AND HE HAS A DARK SENSE OF HUMOR.

吸血遊戯
Act.5
...“DARRES, YOU KNOW I ONLY HIDE SO YOU'LL COME LOOKING FOR ME!”
I SHOULDN'T BE ANGRY.
I SHOULDN'T BE ANGRY.
AFTER ALL, AS SHE ONCE SAID..

C'MON, DUZIE, YOU CAN DO THIS. YOU MIGHT EVEN ENJOY IT.

NO !!
I'M NOT DOING THIS!

?

ISHTAR'S GONE?!
.....
La Naan Castle
I WAS HOPING SHE MIGHT'VE COME HERE.
...TO HIDE SOMEWHERE CLOSER AND MAKE MY JOB JUST A LITTLE EASIER?!
BUT WOULD IT KILL THE LITTLE BRAT...
吸血遊戯
シーゼス
東領篇
Act.5

SO, YOU HAVEN'T SEEN HER?
NO, I HAVEN'T, BUT I'LL ORDER A SEARCH
IF SHE WERE IN LA NAAN..
.....
...I'M SURE SHE'D HAVE COME TO SEE ME.
WOULDN'T SHE?
..MY GUT TOLD ME SHE WOULD COME BACK TO LA NAAN. HER MEMORY SPAN IS ONLY SO LONG..
...UNDER BEDS, IN CLOSETS, UP IN THE HAYLOFTS AND OUT IN THE MEADOWS
AFTER MORE THAN TEN YEARS OF LOOKING FOR HER
Darres' imagination
HEY! I CAN USE THE RING TO GO TO THE MOUNTAINS AND PICK MUSHROOMS!
OOH! LET'S GO! LET'S GO!
AND DIDN'T I SEE SOME PRETTY MUSHROOMS IN LA NAAN?

EXCUSE ME, BUT IS LADY RAMIA AROUND?
NO, SHE'S OFF AT A SPA
SHE HAD A BIT OF A... BREAK-DOWN AFTER VORD LEFT.
SHE GOT INTO A FIGHT WITH SEILIEZ AND WENT AWAY TO COOL OFF A LITTLE.

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YOU NEVER KNOW WITH ISHTAR.
That's why I don't date princes. Too much drama.
Touchy touchy.
SORRY, CAPTAIN!!
JILL! KRAI!

Near Ci Xeneth Castle
.....
HE HARDLY SEEMS WORTH
A BREAK-DOWN AFTER PRINCE VORD LEFT, EH?
VORD LEAVING LA NAAN TO FOLLOW ISHTAR TO THE CAPITAL...
...PROBABLY UPSET LADY RAMIA'S PLANS.
BUT SOMETHING'S CHANGED IF SEILIEZ CAN GET TO HER LIKE THAT
WELL, IF ISHTAR ISN'T HERE, WHERE IS SHE?

IN OTHER WORDS...
THEY'RE ALL GOING ABOUT THEIR DAILY LIVES CHEERFULLY AND FREE OF STRESS
...EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE OF THE WAY THEY'D BE ACTING IF ISHTAR HAD PASSED THROUGH HERE.

AND I SAID I'D LOOK UP NORTH BY MYSELF. I HAD TO OPEN MY BIG MOUTH .
DARRES SAID HE WOULD RETURN TO LA NAAN TO LOOK FOR ISHTAR THERE.
SO THIS IS CI XENETH? NICE PLACE.
EVERYONE SEEMS HAPPY.

SIR KNIGHT, YOU MUST HELP US!
WE NEED HELP!
THEY ATTACKED MY VILLAGE TOO!
PLEASE SEND CAPTAIN ILLSAIDE! WE'RE DESPERATE!
LAST NIGHT THE MONSTERS TOOK EIGHT MORE OF OUR PEOPLE!

I HEAR HE'S OPENLY THREATENED TO MURDER ANY CANDIDATE FOR ISHTAR'S HAND...
NOT THAT THEIR MONARCH, LORD JENED, IS MUCH BETTER.
...OR EVEN ISHTAR HERSELF.

BESIDES, MOST MONSTERS I'VE HUNTED ARE SKITTISH. THEY GO OUT OF THE WAY TO AVOID HUMAN SETTLEMENTS.
MUST BE THE SMELL.
DIDN'T YOU HEAR US? MOVE! WAIT A MINUTE... YOU'RE NOT FROM AROUND HERE, ARE YOU?

MONSTERS?
ONE MORE WORD AND I'LL THROW YOU IN THE STOCKS!
YOU HEAR ME?! NOW GET LOST!!
YOU KNOW DAMN WELL THAT CAPTAIN ILLSAIDE ONLY HUNTS MONSTERS ON LORD JENED'S ORDERS!
SHUT UP AND MOVE ALONG!
THERE SHOULDN'T BE ANY MONSTERS THIS FAR NORTH.
MONSTERS? WHAT THE HELL?

AND THAT'S THE FIRST GOOD NEWS I'VE HEARD ALL DAY
YOU INSOLENT---
BOYS, BRING HIM IN!

WE'LL SEE WHAT LORD JENED THINKS OF YOUR WIT, BOY.
YES, LORD JENED... I'D VERY MUCH LIKE TO MEET HIM..

DON'T YOU THINK, DADDY?
THEY'RE SIMILAR ONLY IN THE WAY THEY LOOK
DU SEEMS MUCH SMARTER THAN THAT IDIOTIC COUSIN OF YOURS.

LISTEN, DU...

SO, LADY DU, I HEAR YOU'RE FROM RAZENIA.
THAT'S SO INTERESTING
BECAUSE YOU LOOK EXACTLY LIKE MY COUSIN, LADY ISHTAR!

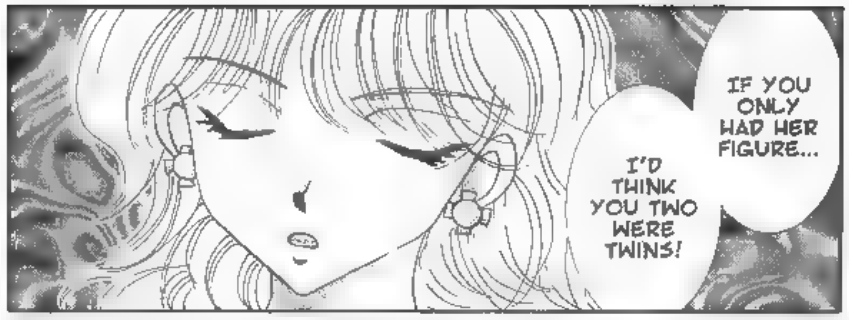
NO, I HAVEN'T
YOU'VE NEVER MET LADY ISHTAR, HAVE YOU?
ILLSAIDE ...
BUT I'VE HEARD SHE'S QUITE BEAUTIFUL.
BEAUTIFUL

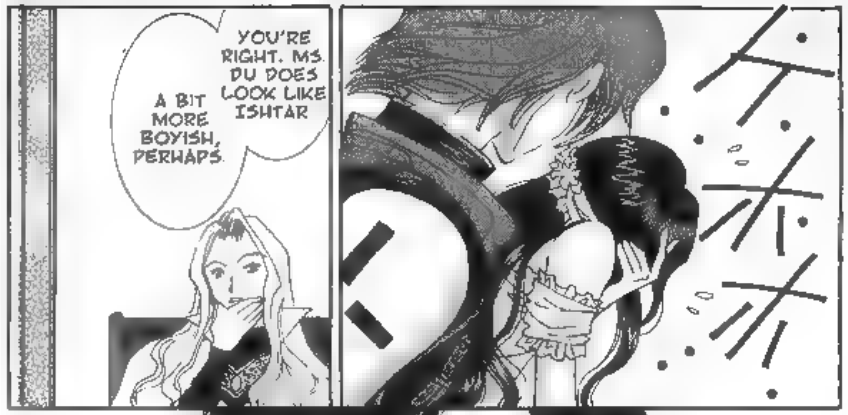
...JUST COUGH UP A HAIRBALL AND MAKE YOUR GETAWAY WHILE THEY'RE STILL IN SHOCK!
And grab some bread or something. I'm starved
...NO MATTER WHAT, JUST INSIST THAT YOU'RE NOT ME. WHICH SHOULDN'T BE TOO TOUGH...
...SINCE YOU REALLY AREN'T ME. ARE YOU?
NO, THANKFULLY, I'M NOT YOU, ISHTAR. BUT JUST ONCE, I WISH YOU COULD BE ME...BEING YOU.
IF THAT DOESN'T WORK...

I CAN SEE WHY ISHTAR LIKES FALAN. SHE MAY NOT BE THE PRETTIEST GIRL OUT THERE, BUT I'D BITE HER.

Hmmm
WHY IS FALAN SO OBSESSED WITH HOW PRETTY ISHTAR IS? IS SHE JEALOUS?
OR IS THIS JUST HER WAY OF COMPLIMENTING ME IN FRONT OF ILLSAIDE?
THAT'S NONSENSE

COUGH!
I'LL HEAR NO MORE OF THIS.
YOU'RE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL IN PHELIOSTA. THAT WRETCHED ISHTAR DOESN'T EVEN COPARE.
YOU REALLY DO LOOK LIKE ISHTAR.
EXCUSE ME!
Hair balls, ya know?


IF YOU ONLY HAD HER FIGURE...
I'D THINK YOU TWO WERE TWINS!


YOU'RE RIGHT. MS. DU DOES LOOK LIKE ISHTAR
A BIT MORE BOYISH, PERHAPS.

I SHOULD GET OUT OF HERE.
ILLSAIDE...

..CAN I TALK TO DU IN PRIVATE?
GIRL TALK. YOU UNDER-STAND - RIGHT?

THEM?
YOU KNOW WHERE THEY ARE? I MEAN, WHERE SHE IS?
THAT SOUNDS LIKE..
HE COULDN'T BE TALKING ABOUT THEM, COULD HE?
RELATED?
ARE YOU RELATED?
WHY ARE YOU LOOKING FOR THIS GIRL?

OF COURSE
WHATEVER YOU WISH, YOUR HIGHNESS
LOOK, GUYS, I ALREADY TOLD YOU EVERY-THING.
SHE'S GOT BLACK HAIR AND GREEN EYES. SHE'S ABOUT 16 YEARS OLD, VERY PRETTY, AND TROUBLE FOLLOWS HER AROUND LIKE A LITTER OF LOVE-STARVED KITTENS
HER NAME'S ISHTAR, BUT SHE MIGHT BE CALLING HERSELF DUZELL
I'M LOOKING FOR A GIRL.

I WONDER WHAT DARRES IS DOING NOW?

BROTHER?!
I'M HER BROTHER
.. FOR NOW. .
I'D LIKE TO SAY I'M HER FIANCÉE, BUT...
MAGIC? WELL, I WOULD HOPE SO!
CAN YOU FIGHT LIKE DU? IS YOUR MAGIC AS GOOD AS ISHTA'S?
WHAT'S SHE UP TO? AND WHY ARE THESE GUARDS SO STIRRED UP?
ISHTAR'S NOT ONE TO GO AROUND CASTING DANGEROUS SPELLS, BUT IN HER HANDS, EVEN A GOOD LUCK CHARM IS DANGEROUS.

KNOWING HIM, HE'S PROBABLY DISCUSSING SPANKING TECHNIQUES WITH THE DUNGEON MASTER.
HE'S GOT TO BE STRESSING OUT! HIS HAIR IS PROBABLY TURNING WHITE!
IF I KEEP THIS UP, HE'LL LOOK JUST LIKE THE OLD FART!
I DON'T WANT THAT...
WAIT A MINUTE.. WHERE AM I?
HEY, IT'S UNCLE JENED'S WINE CELLAR!!! OH, COME TO MAMA!!!
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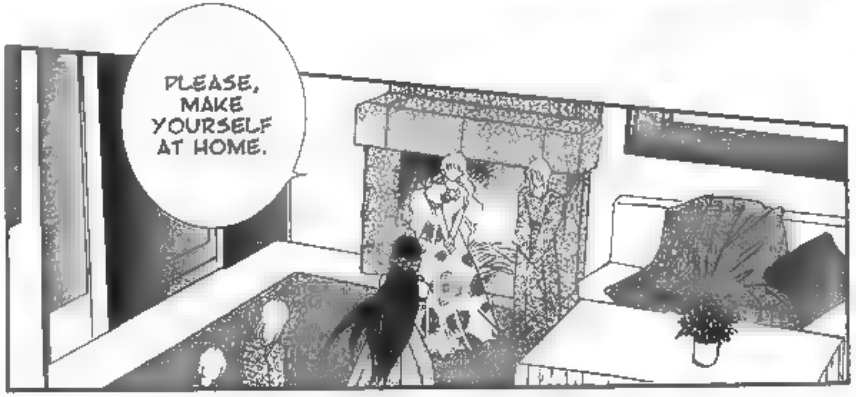
コツ
コツ

吸血遊戯
東領篇（シーゼネス）
Act.6

WHAT'S THAT NOISE?
IT'S COMING FROM BEHIND THAT DOOR...

?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING DOWN HERE?
UH ..
ROY! YOU SCARED THE CRAP OUT OF ME!

..JUST TO MAKE RUELLES FOR LORD JENED
NEARLY A DECADE OF GATHERING THE MOST EXOTIC OF INGREDIENTS..
RUELLES?


PLEASE, MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.

ROY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
YOU MEAN THIS ISN'T THE BATHROOM?! THE GUARD SAID IT WAS THE EIGHTH DOOR ON THE RIGHT. DID I MISCOUNT?
well. I'll be um going now Heh heh
WANT TO SEE?
UH. SURE?
WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON THIS FOR YEARS.

POOR GIRL FOREVER IN ISHTAR'S SHADOW
YOU'RE DISMISSED.
BUT, PRINCESS
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
PHELIOS MUST HAVE PASSED ON SOME TWISTED GENES..
I MEAN
..THE MEN IN THIS FAMILY ARE PRETTIER THAN THE WOMEN.

I..
I'M JUST...
..A LITTLE JEALOUS THAT ILLSAIDE PICKED YOU. HOW'D HE POP THE QUESTION?
DOES SHE MEAN ...?
HUH?
POP THE QUESTION?
I'M SORRY. THAT WAS RUDE OF ME.

HE'S PLAYING BOTH OF US!!
THAT BASTARD!
I...I LOVE HIM, BUT HE DOESN'T LOVE ME.
OH NO, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!
A YEAR AGO?
HE TOLD ME THAT OVER A YEAR AGO.

"THANK YOU."
"I'M NOT VERY GOOD AT THIS KIND OF THING, SO I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT TO SAY. I DIDN'T EXPECT IT TO BE SO EASY."
"...I'D GIVE MY LIFE TO PROTECT YOU."
"DU, WHATEVER HAPPENS, I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW..."

I'M SO SORRY!
I WANTED TO BE ALL GROWN UP AND CONGRATULATE YOU...
...I WAS ALL CATTY!
I'M SORRY FOR BEING SO HORRIBLE!
IT'S JUST...
...BUT INSTEAD ...

ABOUT A MONTH AFTER HE CAME BACK FROM THE MERARIM CAMPAIGN
...ILLSAIDE TOLD ME HE COULDN'T MARRY ME
HE SAID HE'D FALLEN IN LOVE WITH A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN.

TYPICAL MAN...W-WAIT A MINUTE! DID I JUST SAY THAT?
AND SO HE INTRODUCED ME AS THAT MYSTERY WOMAN. THAT BASTARD...

I TOLD HIM THAT I WANTED TO MEET HER.

"...I LIKE FALAN. SHE'S REALLY SWEET."
I FEEL LIKE I CAN TRUST YOU.
I FEEL LIKE I'VE KNOWN YOU FOR YEARS.
YOU'RE NOT ISHTAR, BUT-- OUCH!-- YOU'RE SO MUCH LIKE HER
IT'S GOING TO BE OKAY, SWEETIE.
AND TRUST ME, I'VE BEEN THE CATTY ONE.

ILLSAIDE.
ILLSAIDE.

I THOUGHT I WOULD HAVE TO SEND HER TO A CONVENT, BUT HEY, THIS WORKS TOO!
NOW, MAYBE FALAN CAN FINALLY GET OVER YOU! SHE KEEPS ME UP AT NIGHT, CHATTERING ON ABOUT HOW SHE'LL DIE WITHOUT YOU.
THIS IS JUST WONDERFUL !!
AND I MUST SAY, YOU SURE KNOW HOW TO CHOOSE 'EM. NICE RACK, NICE ASS YOU WILL, OF COURSE, "TRY HER ON" BEFORE PURCHASING, WON'T YOU?

HE SAID...
...MY HUSBAND WOULDN'T HAVE TO BE A DESCENDANT OF PHELIOS.
.. IF THE MAN WAS WORTHY OF ME...
DADDY GIVES YOU SO MUCH ATTENTION, ILLSAIDE.
I'M ALMOST JEALOUS!
ILLSAIDE, I ASKED.
..MY FATHER SOMETHING.
I'VE HEARD THEM SAY YOU'RE A HOLY WARRIOR!
OR EVEN THE REINCARNATION OF PHELIOS HIMSELF!
YOU KNOW WHAT THE PEOPLE SAY ABOUT YOU?
YOU'RE THE MOST POPULAR KNIGHT IN CI XENETH
EVEN MORE POPULAR THAN MY FATHER!

THIS HAS BEEN ONE VERY STRANGE NIGHT.
AS FOR FALAN .
ILLSAIDE SEEMS NICE ENOUGH...
...BUT THE GUY HAS THE PERSONALITY OF A RADISH.
YOU'RE DISMISSED AND GIVE THAT GORGEOUS GIRL'S ASS A SQUEEZE FOR ME!
ILLSAIDE

YOUR HIGHNESS!! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE?! YOU'VE WORRIED US HALF TO DEATH!
PRINCE VORD!!

WELL, SHE'S TASTY. BUT SHE'S NOT PHELIOS' REINCARNATION
WHICH LEAVES HER FATHER, LORD JENED.
SOMEHOW I DOUBT IT
COULD HE BE PHELIOS?

ABOUT BLOODY TIME ..
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?!

YOU USE THESE . CREATURES TO MAKE RUELLES?
.....
WE USE THE SOULS OF MONSTERS TO CREATE OBJECTS OF PURE MAGIC..
THAT'S RIGHT.

THIS IS BAD...
VERY BAD. .
!!

SO IF YOU NEED A LIKE'S SOUL TO MAKE A RING OF TRANSPORTATION..
...WHAT'S IT TAKE TO MAKE A SWORD LIKE SIDIA?
A GOOD QUESTION FOR A RUELLE LIKE THAT, YOU'D NEED HOLY MAGIC.
...AND THE SOULS OF VAMPIRES LOTS OF THEM.
YES SIDIA WAS CREATED TO DESTROY DUZELL. ITS FORGING REQUIRED ..
VAMPIRE SOULS?! IN SIDIA?!
...THE SOULS OF MANY VAMPIRES FROM DUZELL'S CLAN.
HUMAN CORPSES... VAMPIRES?
IN MUCH THE SAME WAY THAT VAMPIRES USE HUMAN CORPSES ..
...AS THEIR SERVANTS HELLO, ISHTA.

MY ANCES-TORS DID WHAT?!
A MONSTER'S LOOSE!
DAMMIT, MEN! STAND YOUR GROUND!!
A POWERFUL CREATURE LIKE A VAMPIRE CAN ONLY BE DEFEATED...
...BY A RUELLE WITH GREATER MAGICAL ENERGY.
AND A HOLY SPELL THAT'S AT LEAST AS POWERFUL AS THE RUELLE.
IN DUZELL'S CASE, THE ENERGY REQUIRED WAS INCREDIBLE
THAT IS WHY YOUR ANCESTORS MATED WITH THESE MONSTERS

KILL HER?
WHY DIDN'T YOU KILL HER?
THAT WOULD RUIN T
NO, WE HAVE SOMETHING MUCH MORE SPECTACULAR PLANNED FOR HER
DON'T WE ISHTAR?

A MONSTER?!
.....
SUZIE!!

吸血遊戯
東領篇（シーゼネス）
Act.7

NO MEMORY
PHYSICAL TRAITS...
TALENTS.
EVEN YOUR PERSONALITY IS TOSSED AS DE FOR SOMETHING NEW.
HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO DUZELL'S PROPHECY, PHELIOS WILL BE REBORN BACK INTO THE SAME BLOODLINE.
THAT MEANS THERE ARE ONLY A HANDFUL OF PEOPLE IT COULD BE. AND I'VE MET MOST OF THEM A HOG WOULD BE A WORTHIER REINCARNATION.
AND UNLIKE A VAMPIRE, I DON'T HAVE THE BENEFIT OF USING BLOOD AS A MEANS OF IDENTIFICA-/ TION.
DUZELL MAY HAVE PREDICTED PHELIOS' REBIRTH.
BUT EVEN HE WOULD HAVE A HELL OF A TIME SPOTTING HIM.

SO, THE VAMPIRE'S PROPHECY IS TRUE. PHELIOS HAS RETURNED AND IS IN OUR PRESENCE. NOT THAT HE EVEN REALIZES IT.
POOR HUMANS
WHEN YOUR SOULS ARE REBORN, YOUR PAST LIVES ARE LEFT BEHIND A WHOLE LIFE LIVED WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A SOUVENIR

SOMETHING LIKE HIS WILL OR SPIRIT
I'VE BEEN WATCHING PHELIOS' SORRY FAMILY FOR DECADES..
AND THIS BRATTY PRINCESS MUST BE THE ONE
PERHAPS .T IS SOMETHING MORE GENERAL, LESS TANGIBLE .
EVEN IF THEY AREN'T AS OBV OUS AS MEMORY, APPEARANCE, TALENT OR PERSONALITY
NO, IT'S REASONABLE TO ASSUME THAT THE NEW PHELIOS WILL SHARE AT LEAST A FEW TRAITS WITH THE OLD ONE

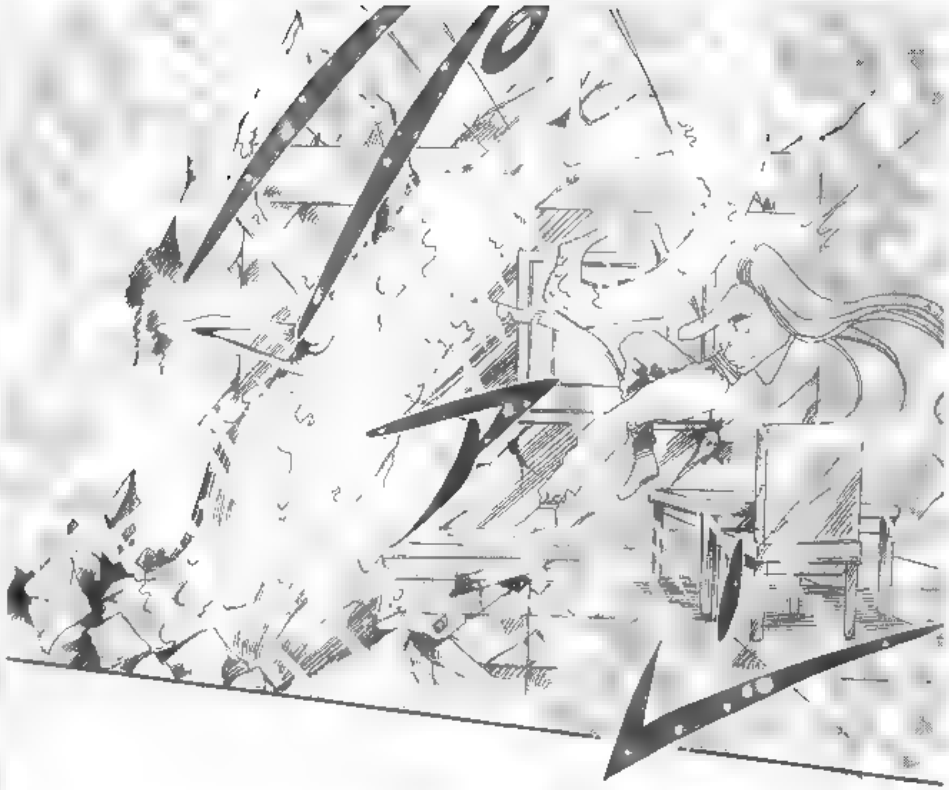
.. THERE'S A BIG COMMOTION UPSTAIRS BANDITS, MAYBE?
WHY DON'T YOU CHECK IT OUT?
MY WORKSHOP IN THE BASEMENT.
BUT...

AFTER ALL...
THEIR RESPONSES ARE EXACTLY THE SAME!
HUH?!
WHERE AM I?

JUST AS VORD COMES POUNDING AT MY DOOR ASKING ME--
THEN MONSTERS POP UP EVERY-WHERE...
FIRST, YOU MAKE ME WEAR A DRESS SO I CAN GO OUT WITH MY "BOYFRIEND," THEN FALAN DECIDES TO CONFIDE IN ME...
UH.. I WAS--
I'VE HAD QUITE A NIGHT! NO THANKS TO YOU, I MIGHT ADD!
VORD? DO I KNOW HIM?
DON'T BE AN IDIOT!
HE'S THE GIANT THAT FOLLOWED YOU HOME FROM LA NAAN!
Oh, that Vord

DU, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I'M FINE! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
YOU'RE MISSING ALL THE EXCITEMENT!

BUT MAY I PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THIS OVERGROWN SLUG FIRST?!!
OH NO!
AS FAR AS HE KNOWS, YOU'RE MY CAT!
WE CAN'T RUN INTO VORD NOW!
IF HE SEES YOU IN HUMAN FORM I'M SURE HE'LL START PUTTING TWO AND TWO TOGETHER AND...
Our story is falling apart
LOOKING FOR YOU! WHAT ELSE WOULD HE BE DOING?!
WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?
.....
PRINCESS, THIS IS ALL VERY INTEREST-ING.
AND I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT IT REALLY, I DO.



CAPTAIN!
BUT THAT MEANS...
HOLY MAGIC...

すう
IT TORE THROUGH THE FLOOR...
...SPREADING ITS TENTACLES INTO THE CASTLE FROM BELOW.
ズギッ
PLEASE PROTECT THE PRINCESS.
ILLSAIDE!

.....!
WHAT THE HELL?!
HAS ANYONE FOUND THIS BEAST'S BODY?

.....
YOU GOT ME.
YOU ALWAYS WERE A SMART ONE. C'MON, GIVE YOUR COUSIN A HUG!
ISHTAR!

THE WAY HE'S BEEN ACTING COULDN'T BE... COULD IT?
I DON'T GET IT. IS ILLSAIDE REALLY IN LOVE WITH FALAN?
.....
ISHTAR?
.....
YOU ARE ISHTAR... RIGHT?

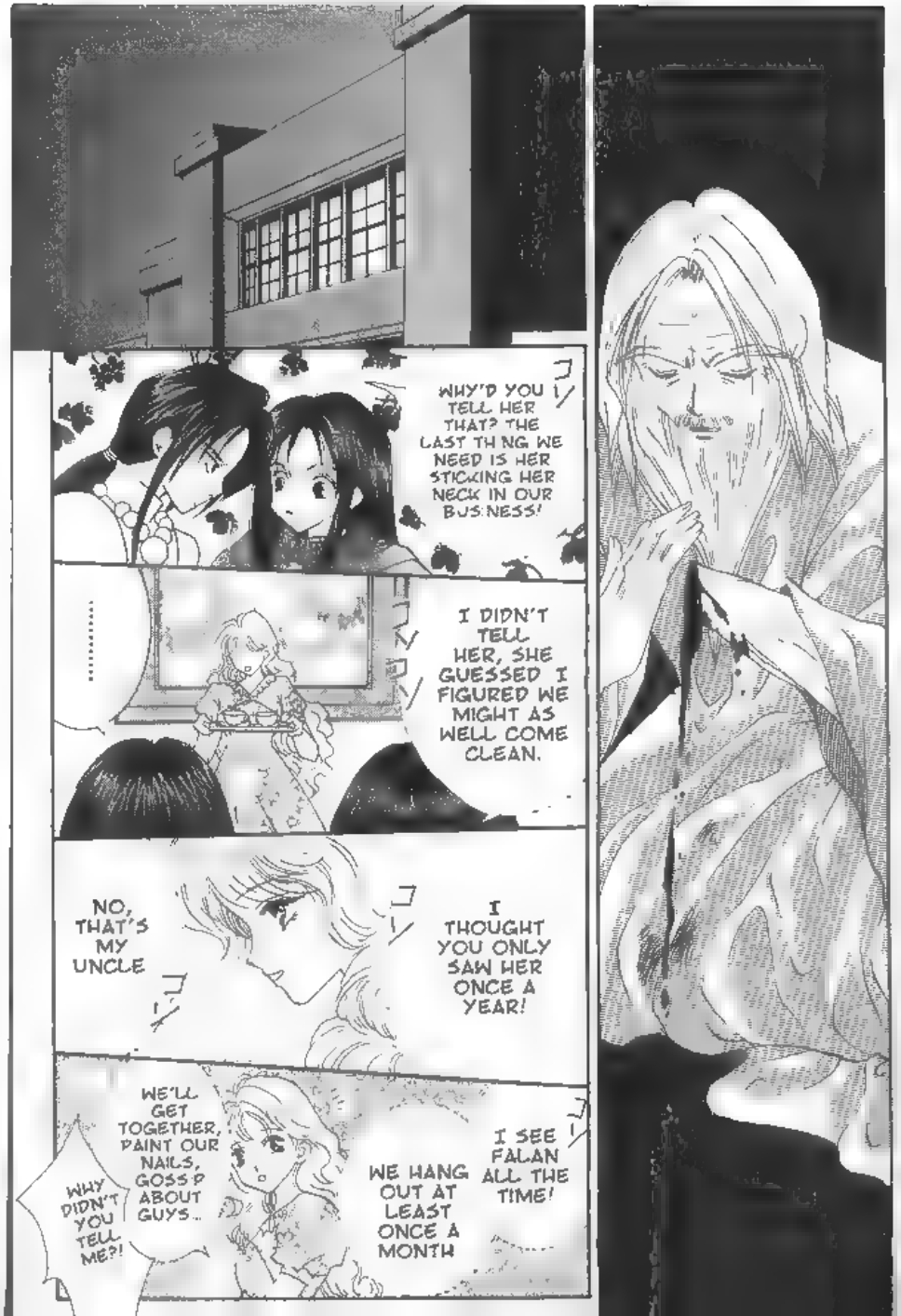
ズシャ!

LITTLE PUNK'S BETTER THAN I GAVE HIM CREDIT FOR
NOT BAD...
"KISS OF THE ANGELS," A WISE CHOICE OF A SPELL...
I DIDN'T EVEN RECOGNIZE THAT LAST SPELL. .
LORD JENED..
!
ILLSAIDE, WELL DONE, MY BOY!
ぶんぶん
AND HE'S NOT A PRINCE, SO WHO TAUGHT HIM?
THE GUY'S PROBABLY BEEN PRACTICING MAGIC SINCE HE WAS IN DIAPERS.

SO, THAT'S THE BIG MAN.
INTERESTING
JENED?
DOESN'T LOOK LIKE MUCH
ゴタ
ゴタ
HE SURE HAS! I MEAN...
...THE CAPTAIN... IS .UH, QUITE SKILLED.
LORD JENED TAUGHT THAT BOY WELL.
WHEW! THAT WAS ONE POWERFUL SPELL!

SPEAK OF THE DEVIL... SHARLEN?!
NO, IT CAN'T BE!
HE'S MUCH TOO OLD...
.....

ONE MYSTERY'S SOLVED, BUT IT HAS PRESENTED US WITH A NEW ONE. SPECIFICALLY, WHAT'S GOING ON BETWEEN THOSE TWO?
I'LL SAY! I THOUGHT THE ROYAL FAMILY KEPT THEIR HOLY MAGIC UNDER LOCK AND KEY! WELL, YOU LEARN SOMETHING NEW EVERY DAY
ILLSAIDE'S GOOD-LOOKING.
ALMOST AS HANDSOME AS SHARLEN.


WHY'D YOU TELL HER THAT? THE LAST THING WE NEED IS HER STICKING HER NECK IN OUR BUSINESS!
.....
I DIDN'T TELL HER, SHE GUESSED I FIGURED WE MIGHT AS WELL COME CLEAN.
NO, THAT'S MY UNCLE
I THOUGHT YOU ONLY SAW HER ONCE A YEAR!
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?!
WE'LL GET TOGETHER, PAINT OUR NAILS, GOSSIP ABOUT GUYS..
WE HANG OUT AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH
I SEE FALAN ALL THE TIME!

YOU TWO LOOK SO MUCH ALIKE-- IT'S INCREDIBLE!
DID YOU MEET EACH OTHER IN CI XENETH?
GOOD ONE, ISHTA ALWAYS THINKING ONE STEP AHEAD..
UH ..YEAH, WE DID! WEIRD,HUH?!
REALLY? HOW COOL! I GUESS I WON'T SAY ANYTHING TO DADDY, THEN.
IT'S.. UH... A SECRET MISSION.
SO WHY ARE YOU HERE? NOT THAT I'M NOT GLAD TO SEE YOU...

I MEAN, I CAN'T SAY THAT I'M LOOKING FOR OUR GREAT-GRANDFATHER'S REINCARNATION WITH THE VAMPIRE KING DUZELL WHO IS REALLY A BABY KYAWL DISGUISED AS ME...NOW. CAN I?
SO WHAT'S THE MISSION ABOUT?
FALAN, IT'S A SECRET M SSION.
RUELLES ?
LET'S JUST SAY THAT I'M REALLY INTO RUELLES RIGHT NOW.
WHY?
I HATE THOSE THINGS! I WISH HE'D NEVER HEARD OF THEM!
AND SINCE YOUR FATHER IS AN EXPERT ON THEM ..

HE SWEARS HE DIDN'T, AND HE WAS WILLING TO GO TO WAR TO PROVE IT
HE PLACED A CURSE ON THE WHOLE OCEAN?
THEY CLAIMED THAT 20 YEARS AGO .
HE WAS WILLING TO RISK THE LIVES OF MEN.
ILLSAIDE WAS HURT.
ALL FOR SOME STUPID RUELLES!
.MY FATHER DID THE SAME THING..
. AND THAT, SOMEHOW, THE OCEAN HAS NEVER BEEN THE SAME SINCE
ILLSAIDE WAS HURT?
I'M SORRY, FALAN. I'M SORRY.
IT WAS AS IF THE WATERS WERE CURSED. THE FISH BECAME SCARCE ..
AND THE SONS OF MERARIM VANISHED AT SEA!

THAT'S RIDICULOUS. THERE ISN'T A RUELLE POWERFUL ENOUGH TO START A WAR
THEY'RE ALL DADDY TALKS ABOUT ANYMORE!
AND THEY CAUSE NOTHING BUT SUFFER NG! THE MERAR M WAR STARTED OVER RUELLES.
NOT YET THERE ISN'T! BUT MERARIM FACES THE OCEAN, AND THAT OCEAN IS FULL OF UNUSUAL CREATURES. MY FATHER WANTED THOSE MONSTERS TO MAKE MORE RUELLES..
...BUT THE MERARIM ANS REFUSED!
THEY WOULDN'T LET MY FATHER'S MEN ENTER THE OCEAN.
UNUSUAL MONSTERS. HE WANTED THEIR SOULS.

I ALWAYS KNEW..
.. THERE WAS SOMETHING..
.. VERY STRANGE ABOUT YOU, BOY.
THEN AGAIN, IT DOES SEEM LIKE HIS STYLE
OH, YES..
HOWEVER, EVEN I NEVER WOULD HAVE GUESSED WHAT IT WAS.

I NEVER BELIEVED IN GUARDIAN ANGELS. RIGHT UP UNTIL MINE INTRODUCED HERSELF.
HER NAME WAS CAPTAIN SELEN. HER HALO WAS HER SMILE IT WAS ABSOLUTELY RADIANT AND HER HARP
HER HARP WAS A SWORD OF STEEL.
太陽と月と…
VAMPIRE GAME ★ SIDE STORY
THE SUN AND THE MOON

WITH ALL LORD JENED'S INTEREST IN MONSTERS
IT SEEMS ONLY NATURAL THAT HE WOULD WANT ONE
...LEADING HIS ARMY.
YOU'RE A HALF-BREED. AREN'T YOU, BOY?
AREN'T YOU?
TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 6

WAIT A MINUTE!
!!
AND IF TURNING 18 MEANS I NEED TO GUARD A BRATTY PRINCESS, I'M HOPING THIS MONTH NEVER ENDS.
FIRST OF ALL, TODAY ISN'T MY BIRTHDAY.
I'M 17 FOR ANOTHER FULL MONTH.
ARRRGGHH!
Happy Birthday Darren
Captain of the Royal Guards
Selen
Age unknown
HURRY UP, BIRTHDAY BOY!
A MAN DOESN'T TURN 18 EVERYDAY, YOU KNOW
YOU DON'T WANT TO SPEND IT EATING RUNNY EGGS, DO YOU?
COME ON, WE'RE DUE AT THE PALACE IN LESS THAN AN HOUR.
TODAY YOU'RE MEETING THE SECOND MOST IMPORTANT GIRL IN YOUR LIFE.

OH, PLEASE CAN I EAT IN PEACE?!
COULD YOU IMAGINE IF I'D BEEN BORN A BOY? WHAT A SCANDAL THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN!
MAYBE YOU SHOULD ACTUALLY MEET HER BEFORE YOU PASS JUDGEMENT EVERYONE SAYS SHE'S A LOT LIKE ME.
I HEAR SHE'S ADORABLE.
HMPH...
I GUESS I SHOULD EXPLAIN.
SELEN AND THE LATE QUEEN, THEY HAD THIS RELATIONSHIP THAT WAS, WELL... SPECIAL.
A LOT OF PEOPLE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND IT. I WASN'T ONE OF THEM HOWEVER, I ALSO UNDERSTOOD THAT THE PRIMARY REASON SELEN ADOPTED ME..
..WAS TO PROTECT THE DAUGHTER OF THE WOMAN SHE LOVED.
SIGH..
Dammit Selen You forgot to wash the lettuce again!
LIKE IT OR NOT, YOUR FUTURE RESTS WITH PRINCESS ISHTAR TRY TO MAKE THE BEST OF IT
I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...
.....
BESIDES..
YOU MIGHT LIKE THE PRINCESS.

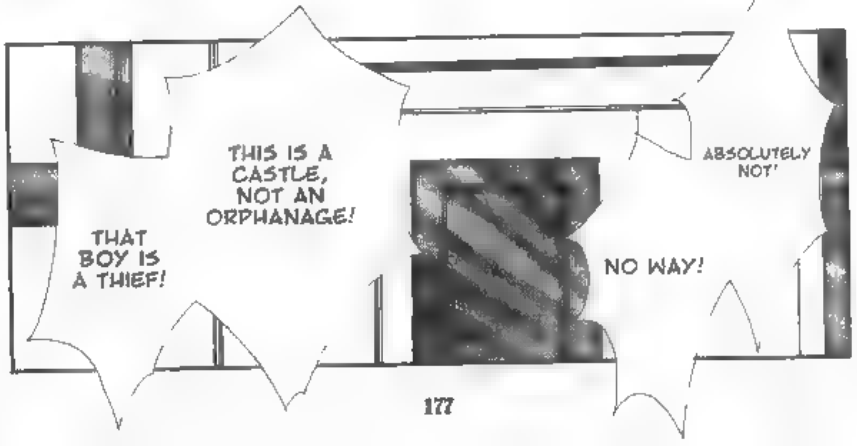
SHE'S JUST A LITTLE GIRL...
WITH ALL THAT SELEN HAS DONE FOR ME, IT REALLY IS THE LEAST I CAN DO
AH, CAPTAIN SELEN...
AND THIS, I PRESUME, IS YOUR STRAY?
!!
I'M SORRY. ALL MY DRESS CLOAKS ARE IN THE WASH.
EXCUSE ME.
BUT I'D LIKE YOU TO THINK ABOUT HOW PAINFUL IT WILL BE TO RIDE A HORSE...
!!
.....
I'M NOT SURE SIR KELD WILL ALLOW HIM INTO THE CASTLE...
...MUCH LESS INTO THE ROYAL GUARD! HA HA HA!
THAT ARROGANT PIECE OF--
OKAY, GOTTA CALM DOWN.

SELEN, YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS. I DON'T HAVE TO BE A ROYAL GUARD--
OKAY...
DON'T WORRY. THE ONLY PERSON WHO MATTERS AROUND HERE IS SIR KELD.
AS LONG AS HE LIKES YOU, YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT
AND HE'LL LIKE YOU. TRUST ME.
..WAIT FOR ME HERE.
I'LL BE BACK IN A MINUTE!
.....

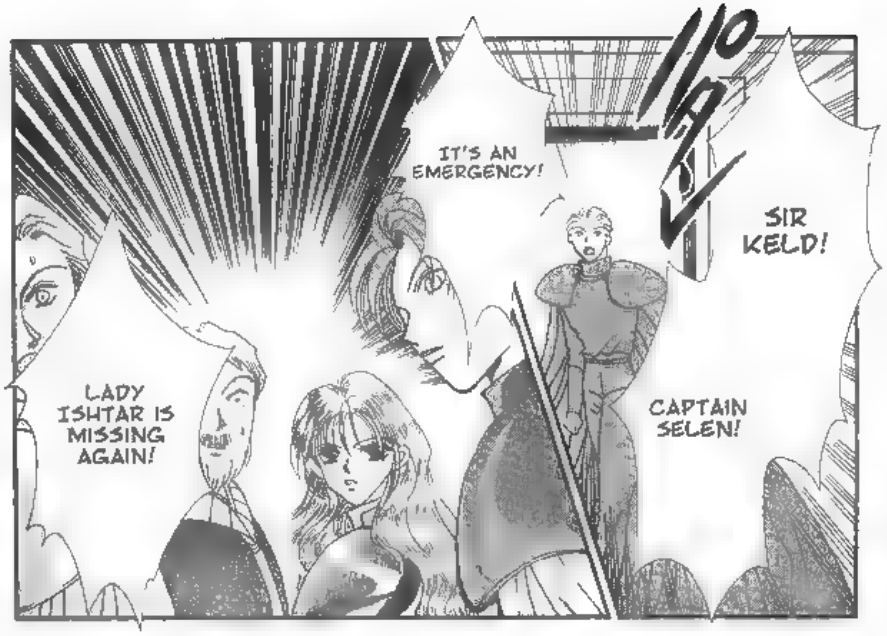
SELEN?!
..ONCE MY MACE HAS CONNECTED WITH YOUR SCROTUM. YOU SPEAK TO HIM LIKE THAT AGAIN, AND YOU WON'T HAVE TO THINK ABOUT T ANYMORE
OH NO, CAPTAIN!
WHAT I MEANT WAS, UH... OH, WHAT'S THAT OVER THERE?!

Hi!
.....

WHY CAN'T I JUST.
I DON'T KNOW IF I EVEN WANT TO BE A ROYAL GUARD.


THIS IS A CASTLE, NOT AN ORPHANAGE!
THAT BOY IS A THIEF!
ABSOLUTELY NOT!
NO WAY!

j
STAY WITH SELEN FOREVER?
WHY DO THINGS HAVE TO CHANGE?


LADY ISHTAR IS MISSING AGAIN!
IT'S AN EMERGENCY!
SIR KELD!
CAPTAIN SELEN!

AT FIRST, I THOUGHT SHE WAS A BOY.
IT'S A GIRL!

HE IS AN ORPHAN, FIGHTING TO STAY ALIVE!
HE'S BRAVE, SIR KELD! AND HE'S ABSOLUTELY BRILLIANT WITH A SWORD! HE'S WORTH A DOZEN OF YOUR KNIGHTS! YOU KNOW THAT!!
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
SELEN, I'M AFRAID I CAN'T ALLOW--
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!
I DON'T KNOW, SIR...

HEY!
GET BACK HERE!
GOTCHA!
WHY, THANK YOU! I'D LOVE SOME SOUP.
OH, I GET IT. IT'S A GAME...
HAVE SOME SOUP!
SOUP?
WHOA!
HAVE SOME MORE!
WHAT A LITTLE BRAT!
TEE HEE HEE!

SOMETHING TELLS ME THESE AREN'T YOUR BABY-SITTERS!

ガァァ
HANG ON TIGHT, KID!
WHAT THE HELL? WHAT ARE THOSE THINGS?!

DARRES!!
And they weren't trying to pick up all the pennies
...JUST CAME OUT OF THE FOUNTAIN'
ALL THESE MONSTERS...
SELEN, WHAT THE HELL JUST HAPPENED?

LADY ISHTAR'
LADY ISHTAR!!

LADY ISHTAR!!
DARRES!
ONE OF THE LEGSARAM CHARMS IS BROKEN.
Hold ng on for dear ife
!
DARRES?

And sit up straight like a lady
I'M SORRY, LADY ISHTAR...
...BUT THIS ISN'T YOUR DECISION
DARRES IS MY BODYGUARD.
HOLD ON, SELEN...
NOTHING'S BEEN DECIDED.
GLARE
DO YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT?!
I SAID DARRES IS MY BODY-GUARD!

SHE'S NOTHING LIKE SELEN.
I DON'T SEE THE RESEMBLANCE
THEY'RE LIKE NIGHT AND DAY SELEN'S THE SUN, AND ISHTAR'S THE MOON..
Appropriate considering she mooned me this morning.
LADY ISHTAR, THIS IS DARRES. HE'S GOING TO BE YOUR NEW BODYGUARD
I SAW IT SOON ENOUGH...

.....
A SALAD?
LOOK DARRES, I MADE YOU A SALAD! EAT! EAT!
AAAAARRRR
GGGGHHH!
OKAY, SO ON SECOND THOUGHT, THEY REALLY ARE VERY MUCH ALIKE.

FIN

ABOUT FALAN

WAIT A MINUTE... DARRES IS CUTE AND STRONG. UH OH...
THEY LIKE DIFFERENT KINDS OF GUYS TOO.
LIKES 'EM STRONG (FALAN)
LIKES 'EM CUTE (ISHTAR)

ABOUT ILLSAIDE

HELLO!

MYSTERIOUS OLD MAN
LORD JEWEL
IT TAKES PLACE IN CI XENETH, WHICH IS FULL OF STRANGE PEOPLE.
CAPTAIN ILLSAIDE
HIGH SORCERER DIAAGE

C'MON, GUYS! DON'T YOU THINK DARRES DESERVES A BREAK?
THEY'RE SO INTO HIM!
DARRES' FANS ARE ALL UPSET, WONDERING IF HE'S GOING TO BE IN THE CI XENETH EPISODE.

Postscript

VAMPIRE GAME

Next issue...

By now it's fairly clear that if you're going to call Ci Xeneth home, you'd better be packing Prozac. The weather's lousy, the crime rate is high, and the king is taking advice from a psychotic. Then there are the monsters. Contrary to popular belief, monsters aren't unreasonable. They usually don't tear people in half unless they're provoked, so the general rule is that you never want to make a monster mad. And using a bunch of their brethren to craft Ruelles tends to tick them off. Lord Jened should know better, and when an army of monsters attacks his castle, perhaps he'll learn his lesson. He won't get much help from Ishtar and Duzell. They've had it with Ci Xeneth and are ready to hit the road, after Duzie downs a few drops of Jened juice, of course. And if the monsters can make that any easier, so much the better...

FINALLY...
But, shhh! Don't tell anyone!
YES, I'M THE CREATOR OF VAMPIRE GAME, BUT EVEN I MAKE MISTAKES.
WHAT?
WAIT, WASN'T IT SUPPOSED TO BE DUZELL?
I TOLD MY EDITOR THAT ISHTAR WAS THE MAIN CHARACTER.
I ONLY REALIZED IT AFTER I STOPPED GETTING THE CALLS I WAS EXPECTING.
I MADE A MISTAKE WHEN THE AREA CODE CHANGED.
AND ONCE, I HAD MY OWN PHONE NUMBER WRONG FOR OVER A YEAR.
WAIT, WHO IS THIS?
I NOTICED THAT MY NAME WAS MISSPELLED ON THE NEXT VOLUME OF VAMPIRE GAME. COINCIDENCE?
OOPS!
ANOTHER TIME I CONFUSED MY ASSOCIATE EDITOR WITH MY EDITOR, AND KEPT CALLING HIM THE WRONG NAME...
ANOTHER QUIZ
BUT FIRST, LET'S SEE HOW YOU DO WITH QUIZ #2!
I PROMISE!
THE ANSWERS FOR THE LAST QUIZ WILL BE IN THE NEXT VOLUME!
3
2
1
1. WHO IS ILLSAIDE REALLY IN LOVE WITH?
LIEUTENANT GORDEN
SORCERER DIAAGE
LORD JENED
2. WHAT'S ILLSAIDE AND LORD JENED'S RELATIONSHIP?
OTHERWISE, YOU'LL KICK YOURSELF LATER.
OH, YEAH, DON'T WASTE TOO MUCH TIME ON THIS ONE EITHER.

TOKYOPOP®

Manga
Fantasy/Comedy
USA $9.99

VAMPIRE GAME™

How to get out of La Naan? A little magical portal action and BAM...Ishtar and Duzell accidentally plop down in the middle of Ci Xeneth, much to the consternation of Sir Keld, Darres, and the rest of the Pheliosta court charged with protecting the young princess. But the princess and her dashing, shape-changing vampire take this opportunity to resume their search for the re-incarnation of St. Phelios among the brood of her wicked uncle, Lord Jened.

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